

# *Executive Proclamation*

## *State of South Dakota*

### *Office of the Governor*

*Whereas*, Robert (Bob) Atkins was born on February 25, 1916, at Lennox, South Dakota, to Charles and Mary Atkins; and,

*Whereas*, Birthdays commemorate the first day of our lives, and we celebrate the birthdays of those we love as we recognize the joys and sorrows we have shared, the strength we have gained from the obstacles and hardships we have conquered, and the small daily pleasures life offers; and,

*Whereas*, Bob attended Sioux Falls College and retired as General Manager and Senior Vice President from John Morrell and Company where he had been employed for 43 years, he has served on numerous boards and committees, was a long-time member of St. Joseph's Cathedral Parish and for the last 15 years has been a member of St. Mary's Parish in Sioux Falls; and,

*Whereas*, Bob married Betty Seely on August 19, 1940, and to this union 12 children were born: Roberta, Judy, Linda, Susan, Mike, Annette, Peggy, Tom, Mary, Betsy, Teresa and Steven, Bob has 28 grandchildren, and 18 great-grandchildren; Bob married Bev Henning in January 2004; and,

*Whereas*, Bob will observe his 90<sup>th</sup> Birthday with all the good wishes, fanfare, and celebration such a milestone warrants, as his friends and relatives gather to honor him and celebrate his life and the camaraderie of the day; and it is fitting and proper for the Governor to make note of this milestone in the life of a man who has lived an exemplary life for all to emulate:

*Now, Therefore, I, M. Michael Rounds*, Governor of the state of South Dakota, do hereby proclaim February 25, 2006, as

### *ROBERT ATKINS DAY*

in South Dakota, and I join all his friends and relatives in wishing him a very happy birthday, good health, and great happiness.

*In Witness Whereof*, I have hereunto set my hand and caused to be affixed the Great Seal of the state of South Dakota, in Pierre, the Capital City, this Third Day of February in the Year of Our Lord, Two Thousand and Six.



*M. Michael Rounds*  
M. Michael Rounds, Governor

Attest:

*Ch. Nelson*  
Chris Nelson, Secretary of State